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WARTBURG TRUMPET

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Annual UKnight Day successful

Over 1,000 Knights come together to support Wartburg College

The goal was to have at least 1,000 Knights donate on UKnight Day. The campaign exceeded their goal, with a final tally showing 1,416 had contributed. — **Submitted Graphic**

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UKnight Day was successful for Wartburg College as they well surpassed their goal during their third annual event, Tony Smith, associate director of alumni and parent relations, said.

The college ended the day with 1,416 people "UKnighted," which was well over the "1,000 UKnighted" goal they had this year.

"I think people understand what UKnight Day is. It's something to celebrate, something that we take over social media on, it's something that we all UKnight together to support the college," Smith said.

He said the event's theme and goal was 1,000 because it seemed attainable, as the college had 943 donors last year during the event.

Around the country, people UKnighted in the event, with 43 states represented.

The success of the event is determined by many different factors. Smith said they need to process a few more details before determining the event's fundraising success.

Smith said in 2016, the event did not pick up until later in the evening.

This year, Smith said there was participation throughout the day, which could be due to more people knowing about the event.

"I definitely think the socks had something to do with it for the student piece," Smith said.

Any student who donated $5 or more could receive special UKnight Day socks. People who donated throughout the day were also randomly selected to receive the socks as well, Smith said.

Many people rallied around the event, including Students UKnight and the UKnight Day Champions.

Smith said the champions were chosen the first year through people who post about the college avidly on social media.

Now, he said anyone who donates is given the option to be a champion for the next year.

Stephanie Dunbar, a member of students UKnight, promoted the event leading up to the day and was present at the student headquarters encouraging students to participate in the event.

She said working on the event has been fun, especially watching people post their memories on social media.

"Next year will be my final UKnight Day as a student. It's been awesome seeing the event grow," Dunbar said.

She said a big goal for the organization is to promote philanthropy, and educating others on the importance and impact of giving back.

Smith said he and the Alumni, Parent Relations and Annual Giving office at the college started planning for this year's event after Homecoming in the end of October.

A new addition to the event this year was some redesign on the website for the event, which added a competition, Smith said.

The redesign allowed donors to select a class year to see which one had the most donors. This year, the class of 2017 had 89 donors, with the next closest class having less than 60 donations.

Smith said there was a mixture of things he thinks made the graduating class donate so much.

Every Wartburg student who donated at least $5 to the cause, received a pair of UKnight Day socks, designed specifically for the event. Other donors were selected at random throughout the day to win a pair as well. —**Rochelle Beardsley**/*TRUMPET*

A UKnight Day center was set up in the Saemann Student Center for students, faculty and staff to donate throughout the day. Additionally, an online portal allowed for alumni, parents, students and friends of the college to participate in the event even if they were not on campus. —**Rochelle Beardsley**/*TRUMPET*

"Emotions are running high and it's a nice way to reflect on your previous four years. What you were able to expect and experience and get out of this place we call Wartburg," Smith said.

He said changing the senior class gift and pledge has also helped the graduating class rally around UKnight Day in the past few years.

"This is a way we can engage with people that haven't been engaged with the college before," Smith said.

He said through the event he has seen people give annually, make first-time gifts and also give back when they haven't done yet in years.

"Somehow this sparked an interest and they wanted to be involved in it," Smith said.

Smith said they will not know the final total donated during the event until all the donations are processed.

"It truly does UKnight people together for 24 hours, it's like a virtual homecoming. I love it," Smith said.

Smith said they will begin brainstorming for the UKnight Day 2018 theme in the coming weeks.

Keller named Coach of the Year

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Wartburg's head wrestling coach Eric Keller was named the d3wrestle.com National Coach of the Year last week.

Eric Keller

This is the third time he has received this honor in his career.

Keller was previously recognized in both 2012 and 2015.

"It's not about me, it's not about our coaches,"Keller said. "It's about our guys. That's how we approach everything we do."

Keller has been part of the Wartburg wrestling program for nearly 17 years and led the team to their record-setting 13th NCAA Championship last season. They have won six of the last seven NCAA championships.

Keller, along with all-american wrestler Logan Thomsen, attributed this success to the entire coaching staff within the program.

"I don't think anybody has success doing things on their own,"Keller said. "This shouldn't be a coach of the year award, it should be a staff of the year award."

As a transfer student from Iowa, Thomsen came to Wartburg to improve his wrestling career. During the decision-making process, Thomsen said the Wartburg staff told him he was going to be a champion.

"They all make an effort to make our wrestling a priority to them. It's about our development, not the coaches' image," Thomsen said.

Along with improving their techniques in the sport, Keller also emphasizes the importance of improving the students' character, earning an education and learning valuable life lessons.

"One of the great things about coaching is that there's a different challenge every single day," Keller said. "The main challenge is changing the way guys think and keeping their minds right."

Thomsen said Keller achieves this by being professional in his coaching, but also being able to reach the athletes on a personal level. It's not always about working harder, but smarter.

"Keller's style as a coach is kind of hard to describe in a few words,"Thomsen said.

"Previously, I wasn't really getting the attention and coaching that I needed to thrive and was actually going backwards. Right from the beginning, Keller made me feel like my development as a wrestler was a priority and I wasn't just a practice partner."

Another characteristic of the program that draws wrestlers from around the country is their tradition of success.

Keller said every athlete that has gone through the program in the last 24 years has been a part of at least one national championship team.

Keller's favorite tradition of the program is the quarter-century party in celebration of their championship banners. This event is held every five years and brings back years' worth of wrestlers, stories and praise for the program and Wartburg College.

Keller said he and the team would not be where they are today without Wartburg.

"Wartburg supports athletes, it supports excellence. It's amazing to be in a place that really gets excellence because that's what we are ultimately striving for."

Wartburg Head Wrestling Coach Eric Keller has been named the National DIII Coach of the Year for the third time since 2012. — **Riley Cole**/*TRUMPET*

Faculty & Staff Spotlight

Tandi Siebrands, Cleaning Staff

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Tandi Siebrands, member of the Wartburg maintenance cleaning staff, is the self-proclaimed "housemom" of the Fine Arts Center and McElroy Center.

Siebrands celebrated her three-year anniversary with Wartburg in February.

Not only does Siebrands work 40 hours a week at Wartburg, she also works at Trinkets & Togs in Waverly between 12 and 20 hours during the weekend.

Siebrands said having extra money every other week because of her part-time job allows her to pay her bills and provide her kids with the things they want.

"I want them to have what I didn't have,"Siebrands said.

Siebrands' life growing up wasn't what she would call amazing; her mom and dad were married and divorced twice by the time she was two.

She said her mouth would get her into trouble and she went through phases of rebellion due to problems at home.

As she grew up, Siebrands said she formed better relationships with both of her parents.

Siebrands said she is very proud of where she is today. She said her family is a team and her focus is on creating a better life for her daughters.

"It has always been us three girls," Siebrands said.

Siebrands and Lilly (18) have a very close relationship, Siebrands said. She said Lilly helps her stay positive throughout the day.

"She always tells me everything is going to be OK,"Siebrands said.

Lilly said her mom is her best friend and she feels lucky to have such a close relationship with her because she thinks there are many girls who don't have that mother-daughter bond.

Every moment they spend together, Lilly said, is her favorite because they always have fun together.

She said her mom's position at Wartburg was the main reason she chose to go to school here.

"I've always been with my mom my whole life so being here [at Wartburg], it wasn't like full blown leaving," Lilly said.

Music Office Coordinator Marcia Haugen and Larson said they love having Siebrands on staff because both of their departments are cleaner than they have ever been.

They said she takes great pride in her work and that she will notice things they don't.

Randy Loy, another maintenance worker in both departments, said she is a valuable person to work with because she is very knowledgeable about the buildings she works in.

Haugen and Larson said they would lose more than just a maintenance staff member if she decided to leave.

"[With Tandi], finally the building has a cooperation with maintenance, it's not us and them. We are all working for the same goal," Haugen said.

Wartburg College Republicans to host sexual assault survivor

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Rape survivor, Kimberly Corban will be speaking on Tuesday, April 4 at 6:00 p.m. in the McCaskey Lyceum as a part of the Trigger Warning Campus Tour.

The event will be hosted by the Wartburg College Republicans.

The Trigger Warning Campus Tour is sponsored by Turning Point USA, a nation-wide student organization for conservative principles that features Kimberly Corban.

Corban is a rape survivor, and will be sharing her story to give sexual assault survivors the courage to share their stories and to not feel ashamed.

On her tour Corban explains how sexual assault cases affect all people not just the victim.

Emily Laudner, president of the Wartburg College Republicans, said she hopes after attending the event, people will take the issue of sexual assault more seriously on campus.

"It's time for sexual assault to stop being a punch line in jokes. It's a serious matter and by attending, people will understand," Laudner said.

Madison Simmons, president of Wartburg SMART (Sexual Misconduct and Assault Resource Team) encouraged members of SMART to attend the event.

Simmons said attending events like this is an important step in the long road of changing how our culture treats sexual assault survivors.

"We become a part of the problem by refusing to talk about it. We cannot educate and prevent future problems unless we acknowledge that they happen in the first place," Simmons said.

Laudner hopes this event will improve the culture about sexual assault on Wartburg's campus. She advises everyone to come and to invite people, but most importantly to not be afraid to attend.

"We all know that sexual misconduct can be a topic that most people shy away from, but that nature of sexual misconduct is also what we are trying to get rid of on campus. Come to the event with an open mind and ask questions to know more about what you can do to prevent sexual misconduct," Laudner said.

Laudner said during the event Corban will also give testimony as to why she is such a strong Second Amendment advocate.

Laudner clarified that although the event is hosted by the Wartburg College Republicans that the main focus is sexual misconduct awareness.

"This is a non-partisan issue and the misconduct culture will not improve until we all take the step to get educated," said Launder.

Simmons agreed with Laudner and said it is important for everyone, regardless of their political background, to understand where survivors are coming from, even if they don't necessarily agree with it.

"I think, especially in today's political climate, students of every political background could benefit from taking time to listen to the other side," Simmons said.

"There are a million different ways to respond to the trauma of sexual assault. As I understand it, Kimberly Corban has responded in part by promoting the NRA and guns rights, as she believes this will help protect others in the future."

Trigger Warning Speaker Event

Featuring Kimberly Corban

Kimberly Corban, a sexual assault survivor, is traveling to college campuses across the U.S. to raise sexual misconduct awareness. Corban's main themes revolve around the idea that being a victim is never a choice, but being a survivor is.

April 4, 6:00 p.m.
McCaskey Lyceum

Info courtesy of Warburg College Republicans

— **Brett Schwickerath**/*TRUMPET*

Student takes advantage of college opportunities

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Seth Jobes-Ryan is one of many students on Wartburg College's campus who stays involved through the various activities offered at the college. - **Rochelle Beardsley**/*TRUMPET*

Seth Jobes-Ryan is involved in a diverse list of activities at Wartburg College.

He is a Residential Assistant (RA), Student Senate Treasurer, Supplemental Instructor (SI) for economics, involved with Sanctuary, member of the baseball team and plays with the Wartburg Community Symphony Orchestra.

"I was really passionate about a lot of those things in high school and then in college, I found that I didn't want to quit a lot of them.

"I wanted to stay involved and I figured out different things that would work in my schedule," Jobes-Ryan said.

Tyler Vogel, Student Body President, has gotten to know Jobes-Ryan through Student Senate.

Upon meeting Jobes-Ryan for the first time, Vogel knew how passionate he was about what he does.

"Seth asked so many questions. Front row, first seat. You could tell he was very passionate about Senate," Vogel said.

Along with being involved in many things Wartburg offers, Jobes-Ryan gains positive experiences through these activities and roles.

"Serving on Student Senate has been a great experience for me. Being on the baseball team, I love my teammates.

"I also got to go to Europe for Wind Ensemble, so that was a great experience as well," Jobes-Ryan said.

College can be overwhelming, but Jobes-Ryan said he takes it in stride.

He said the key to his success is staying organized.

"I put everything in a planner and figure out what's going to work. A lot of late nights and early mornings. Overall, it's a lot of work, but I enjoy what I do," Jobes-Ryan said.

Vogel said student leaders are often very involved on Wartburg's campus.

"He takes that one step further with the variety of things he's involved in. Balancing all that with a very rigorous major, actuarial science, I think Seth does a really good job to keep a steady head on his shoulders, while also making treasurer a priority," Vogel said.

Even though Jobes-Ryan has a busy schedule, he doesn't forget to take time off.

"I kind of find myself making free time, whether it means doing things earlier or later.

"Just making sure I make time to spend with friends, because that's really important, as well," Jobes-Ryan said.

Jobes-Ryan continues to contribute to Wartburg in a positive way, Vogel said.

Vogel said coming in as a sophomore to the treasurer position puts high expectations on a student. He said Seth has filled the role well.

"I'm very proud of his growth. Seth does a good job at not being perfect and making his mistakes, but taking those learning opportunities and applying them to Senate. I think the student body is better because of it," Vogel said.

Students enjoy performance weekend on campus

Wartburg's Saint Elizabeth's Chorale and Rosenchor women performed their "I Believe in Love" spring concert on Sunday to close out their year. - **Rochelle Beardsley**/*TRUMPET*

Richard Scheffel conducts the Wartburg College Concert Band Symphonic Band over the weekend in Neumann Auditorium. This was their final concert of the 2016-2017 school year. - **Submitted photo**

Wartburg College's Ritterchor and Festeburg performed their final concert of the year on Sunday afternoon in the chapel. - **Rochelle Beardsley**/*TRUMPET*

Students to travel for senior design project

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Three Wartburg students will be travelling to Sierra Leone this coming summer to turn their Senior Design project idea into a reality.

Joseph Tarawali, Mike Brown and Arif Ahmadi are designing, building and testing an incubator for chicken eggs for use off the grid in Sierra Leone to enhance the output of remote farmers.

"If you have something in mind, however vague it is, talk to other people. They might help you find solutions,"
— Tyler Vogel

Tarawali and Brown received a $10,000 Davis Projects for Peace award to kick start their project.

Tarawali said the project idea came to him when he was in Sierra Leone over the summer.

"A lot of people, including my dad, have small chicken farms, but there are a lot of constraints that they are facing. Their output is very low compared to the demand, and the cost of eggs is very high," Tarawali said.

Tarawali said when he came back he talked to Dr. LeAnn Faidley, associate professor of engineering science about what could be done to help this issue.

"She sent out an email to students who might be interested and then two students signed up and we all started working on it," Tarawali said.

Although Tarawali and Brown are the two that applied for the Projects for Peace award, Ahmadi will still be accompanying them.

"I was shocked when I found out I was being awarded the Davis Projects for Peace fund. My first thought was 'I've barely been out of the Midwest, let alone taken a trip to Africa,'" Brown said.

Brown said the project has been challenging because of the limitations in Sierra Leone.

"Due to the lack of resources and money in the community, we have been working to design and build the incubator at a low cost while using materials that can only be found in Sierra Leone. It has definitely been a struggle, but we enjoy the challenge," Brown said.

Tarawali said the two overall goals of the project are to increase the poultry output in Sierra Leone and save the lives of children.

"There is a huge amount of death among children that is related to malnutrition and protein deficiencies. We believe that if we can get this project done we might be able to save a lot of lives," Tarawali said.

Faidley said she is working with the team to finalize the design, fabrication plans and testing plans for their work this coming summer.

"Incubators are necessary to increase the poultry and egg output for rural communities because chickens stop laying new eggs while they sit and wait for one to hatch. These means that in order to produce two or three more chickens a farmer needs to give up on egg production for almost a month," Faidley said.

Faidley said egg incubation is easy to achieve using a temperature sensor and powered thermostat in the developed world, but in the parts of the world with no reliable power source it is much more difficult.

The project that the three students has developed will use a car battery charged by a solar cell and a highly-insulated incubation box.

The team is currently building a prototype on campus so they can run a complete set of tests to optimize the design.

"This project and other Senior Design projects allow students to experience this as the culmination of their engineering curriculum," Faidley said.

"It is my hope that it is the start of students 'leading lives of leadership and service as a spirited expression of their faith and learning.'"

Tarawali encouraged those who have any ideas to help others it is always good to try to pursue that thing.

"This idea started out as something very vague. If you have something in mind, however vague it is, talk to other people. They might help you find solutions," Tarawali said.

Brown said although the travel will be out of his comfort zone, he believes it will be worth it.

"I have been overwhelmed with the support from professors, staff and friends," Brown said. "This project is truly a once in a lifetime opportunity."

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Willis continues family tradition

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Eric Willis took his brother Tyler's old number after transferring to Wartburg from St. Bonaventure in New York. Both played under Athletic Director Rick Willis, their father. —**Marketing & Communication**

For the Willis family, Wartburg College has become a household name.

Rick Willis

With father Rick Willis as the athletic director of the college, it is no surprise he has had not one, but two sons be part of athletics at Wartburg.

Tyler Willis

"We grew up around sports. Our dad would always go out in the backyard and throw the ball around and take us to the batting cages to hit," Tyler Willis, a 2016 Wartburg graduate and Willis' oldest son, said.

Eric Willis

In the fall, Willis' middle son, Eric, transferred from St. Bonaventure to Wartburg.

"I decided to transfer because I felt like Wartburg would be a better fit for me as a whole. St. Bonaventure was great and I learned a lot while I was there, but Wartburg just has a great combination of athletics and academics and it is so close to home," Eric Willis said.

Eric said it was not an easy or quick decision to transfer to Wartburg.

"I had worked for years to get to the level [Division I] I was playing at St. Bonaventure so it was hard to leave a situation like that."

"I had made great relationships with my teammates and friends out there in New York so that was definitely tough too," Eric said.

He said he was ready to make an impact on the baseball field and felt Wartburg would give him the opportunity.

Transferring meant it was easier for his family to watch him play as well, Tyler said.

"These last few years we've obviously both been playing at different schools and it's been hard for me to see any of his games, so now I'm trying to make as many games as I can," Tyler said.

"It's a lot different. We certainly have a chance to see him a lot more. He's essentially been gone a whole year with just talking and texting and it's nice to have the opportunity to see him play and have him around," Rick Willis said.

Eric said his family and friends have been supportive throughout the entire process.

"Transferring schools multiple times is never the ideal thing to do but they were always there with me in my corner. They are excited that they'll be able to see me play more often," Eric said.

When Eric transferred to Wartburg, he said he did not expect to pick up Tyler's old jersey number from his time at Wartburg.

"All of the numbers I had liked or worn at my previous schools were already taken so I figured I would just roll with 24," Eric said.

Tyler said his success during college and now his brother's success is built off of the passion both of them have for the game.

"My brother and I would always go hit/workout together on our own as we got older," Tyler said.

Eric said he is happy with how his year at Wartburg has gone so far and can see why his family loves Wartburg so much.

"Being connected to sports has kept us busy all the time and we wouldn't have it any other way," Tyler said.

You can catch Eric on the field in their next game on Tuesday.

From bench to leader and All-Conference

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In only his second year with the Wartburg Men's basketball team, Jaran Sabus has more than made his mark on Wartburg's basketball history.

Even as a bench player this past year, Sabus was selected as an honorable mention All-Conference player for his success on the court. Sabus said he owes his success to his coaches.

"I have received great coaching from all of my coaches, back to Coach Bjorkgren in high school and to Steege and Peth at Wartburg," Sabus said.

"They have helped make me into the player I am today."

Fellow sophomore and Urbandale High School alumnus Coleman May has played with Sabus since they were 7 years old.

He said Sabus has grown both as a player and a person over the years.

Sports have always been a big part of Sabus' life. He was once a member of an Urbandale team that advanced to the 2009 Little League World Series.

With the loss of senior starting guards Nick Webber, Lenart Kalan and Jordan Cannon, assistant coach Jason Steege believes the team will be in good shape with players like Sabus returning next season.

"He's gonna be a guy we look to for leadership, he's gonna be a guy we look to for scoring," Steege said.

"He's gonna be a big part of the future of this team moving forward."

A former B-team player during his freshman year of high school, Sabus has seen his game steadily improve each year.

This year, he produced one of the best games in Wartburg's history in the Iowa Conference Tournament.

Sabus scored 35 points in the semi-finals of the tournament against the no. 2 seed Loras Duhawks.

This performance broke the school record for most points in a tournament game and May said it was quite a game to see.

Jaran Sabus was an Honor Mention All-Conference player, and is expected to be a leader next year. —**Marketing & Communication**

"He was unbelieveable. We knew he was going off, but it just came out of nowhere," May said.

"He played so well in that game and just did what he does, battled people for rebounds and finished through everyone for buckets."

After an appearance in the Sweet 16 this season, expectations facing the men's basketball team will be understandably high next year.

Sabus will a big help to the team next year in reaching those expectations.

Next year, he will be taking on a bigger role as an upper classmen and understands he will be looked to as a leader.

"I know that I need to become a more vocal leader," Sabus said.

"I want to become the leader for the younger guys like the guys graduating this year have been for me."

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Monday - April 3
MGOLF @ Spring Invite

Tuesday - April 4
BB vs. Simpson, 3:30 & 6:30 p.m.
SB vs. Central, 4 & 6 p.m.

Wednesday - April 5
MTEN @ Buena Vista, 4 p.m.
WLAX @ Clarke, 4 p.m.

Friday - April 7
BB @ Luther, 3 p.m.
WTEN vs. Cornell, 4 p.m.
MGOLF vs. Spring Invite

Baseball and softball keep win streaks

Wartburg's baseball and softball teams had a successful weekend with wins against Loras and Dubuque.

The men not only increased their overall winning streak to five, but won the tenth-straight against Loras in the series on Saturday. They won the first game with a shutout 10-0, along with claiming the finale 10-7.

The softball team also snagged a win over Dubuque with the 11-1 victory to remain undefeated in conference play.

LAX falls to Hamline

The Knight's Lacrosse team fell to Hamline Saturday. Sophia Corpstein recorded a hat trick for Wartburg in the 14-4 loss. Alex Pollock scored the other goal and added an assist.

Defensively, the Knights held the Pipers to 0-6 on free position shot attempts.

Successful weekend for track teams

Wartburg's track teams began their outdoor season with first and second places at their own Select Meet Saturday.

The women's team placed first with 248 points, finishing ahead of Division I opponent Northern Iowa.

The men's team finished in second with 211.83 points, just behind Northern Iowa's 235.33 points.

Both teams won several events. Becca Cherry claimed both the 100 and 200 meter dashes for the women, while Nathan Keck led the men's team with wins in the high jump and triple jump.

TRUMPET

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